

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

H E R M A JESTY'S THEATRE,
Corner Pitt and Market Streets, Messrs. Horner and Allison.
DOORS OPEN, 7; COMMENCE, 8; CARRIAGES, 10.30.

This New and Elegant Theatre is the Coolest in Sydney,
due to the use of
ELECTRIC LIGHT IN THE PLACE OF GAS
and Perfect Ventilation.

I N T H E R A N K S
EVERY EVENING
BY THE FAMOUS
M. GEORGE RIGNOLD
MISS KATE BISHOP' s
GREATEST PRODUCTION IS
OUR COUNTRY MOTHERS SHOULD NOT FAIL TO
SEE IT.

E R R O R S O P I N I O N S.

H E R A L D says—
The audience has shown the suitability of
the drama to the Sydney audience.

T R E A T Y says—
The play always has interest, and cannot
fail to draw.

E C H O says—
The enthusiastic way which the principal
characters were called before the curtain
was a testimony of spontaneous public
approval.

E V E N I N G N E W S says—
Will draw all the STARS.

S U N D A Y N E W S says—
A decided success.

R E V I E W E R says—
The fine drama was written, Mr.
Rignold, the cleverest and most painstaking
of stage managers, has placed it on the stage
in such a manner that it will delight the heart
of the author.

S U N D A Y T I M E S says—
The play is a really written drama we have had for years.

S U N D A Y N E W S says—
The play is well written and acting
have never been surpassed on the Sydney
stage, and it may be wagered that before
the Ranks it will be withdrawn all Sydney will see it.

Mr. JOHN LITTLE'S SCENERY is
THE THEME OF ADMIRATION.

A GREAT AND POWERFUL CAST.

A MARVEL OF STAGE MECHANISM AND EFFECTS.

BOX PLAN AT NICHOLSON AND CO'S.

Prices of Admission—3s. 2s. 1s.

J. P. MAGNOLIA, Acting Manager.

O P E R A H O U S E,
Corner King and York streets.

Lower Box ... 3s. 2s. 1s.

Business Manager ... Frank M. Clark.

Stage Manager ... Monty Brown.

Martin Hayes

A SENSATION EVERY EVENING.

Electric Success

SECOND PROGRAMME.

STRUCTURE OF OUR SEVENTEEN OF SOLDIERS.

MEMPHIS OF THE FOURTH PREMIER, JOHN M. FRANK M. CLARK.

Charles Hanson, J. W. Wilson.

The Finniest of all Stars, William Cameron.

WILSON AND CAMERON'S HUMMERS.

A Smile a Laugh, a Seven and One Long Yell!

FELIX AND HANSON.

NEURSYNCRATES.

FRANK M. CLARK.

AS THE KING OF SWELL.

and his original master, THE BOOKMAKER.

WILSON AND CAMERON.

MacCabe, Begon! Dull Care, To-night.

MacCabe in his great Specialities, To-night.

MacCabe and MacCabe, in the Magic Room, To-night.

MacCabe, by particular desire, in his Ventilations.

Box Plan at Nicholson's.

The ELEGANT FURNISHINGS by BROOKS and GARRAT.

Admission—3s. 2s. 1s.

A R T S O C I E T Y

NEW SOUTH WALES.

EIGHTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION.

LAST WEEK LAST WEEK

THIS DAY THIS DAY

THIS DAY THIS DAY

From 10.30 to 8 p.m.

Union—Admiralty, No. 70, Pitt-street.

Two doors from the Art Society.

A splendid collection of
ORIGINAL OIL and WATER COLOUR PICTURES

Admission: ONE SHILLING.

NOTE—Exhibition Close on 7th instant.

JULIAN R. ASHTON, President.

A R T SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

SECOND ART UNION CONVERSATION.

THIS (WEDNESDAY) EVENING, 4th JANUARY, at 8 o'clock.

Society's Rooms, 70, Pitt-street, near Hunter-street.

Members and Art Union Subscribers, accompanied by a lady, will be admitted on production of their tickets.

Friends of members, 2s 6d each.

JULIAN R. ASHTON, President.

A U S T R A L I A N A CADEMY OF ARTS,

116, Pitt-street.

NOW OPEN, 8 until 1.

FOUNDED TO ADVANCE COLONIAL ART.

FIRST EXHIBITION OF THE ACADEMY.

oil and water colour PAINTINGS and
ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS.

UGGER'S PALACE AQUARIUM,

BATHS, AND PLEASURE-GROUNDS.

CONTINUED SUCCESS.

ADMIRATION and SURPRISE

at this

ARTISTIC PALACE and GROTTOES

by CHURCHILL'S, THE GREAT AUDIENCES.

THIS DAY, WEDNESDAY, at 8 o'clock.

High-class OPERATIC CONCERT.

Song—“I'm the Queen” (Adams)

Ballad—“Fitter swimmers” (Miss A. Bennett)

Ballad—“Heart bowed down” (Bob. Gilt)

Song—“Waiting” (Miss A. Parker)

Song—“I'm the Queen” (Adams)

Ballad—“Robert, she was a Wreath of Rose”

Ballad—“A Dream Within a Dream” (Miss A. Bennett)

Duet—“I am the King of Spins” (Miss A. Parker)

The CENTENNIAL BAND, under the conductorship of Mr. Geo. Vass, will perform a number of the newest and best selected marches, fantasias, and other musical pieces.

In the evening, the grottoes will be illuminated, giving an enchanting fairy-like appearance to the magnificent gardens.

The management will make all charge of entrance, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 2s. 6d.

THE SALOON and PIER are free DAILY at 10.30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Persons driving can use the carriage paddock, where a man will be in attendance to take charge of vehicles.

THE MORNING STAR, 10, Pitt-street.

McLennan's, Pitt-street.

THE GREAT AUDIENCES.

GATSBY'S, 7th January.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

The management beg to notify that they have secured (at considerable expense) one of the greatest novelties that has ever been offered to the public in the person of PROFESSOR PRÆZARIA.

THE CHAMPION SWIMSMAN and SHARPSHOOTER

will be exhibited in his marvellous performance by MADAME PEARLERA B.R.A.

This great exhibition will utterly eclipse all performances of the kind ever attempted, full particulars of which will be shortly given.

Open daily from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Admission, 1s. Children Half-price.

C O O GEE PALACE AQUARIUM.

THE REFRESHMENT DEPARTMENT

at this

Most Fashionable and Popular Resort

is carried out in the style of

COUNTESS MILK COMPANY,

of 187, Pitt-street.

Everything supplied is of the

and the attendance cannot be equalled.

A. E. STOPFORD, Manager.

MATTERSON'S AQUATIC RENDEZVOUS

(late Manchester Arms), 53, George-street.

Two doors south of Royal Hotel.

Mr. Vass, would respectfully inform that he has taken the above

name and address, and is now

and will be known as

as the

and perfect ventilation.

21, Pitt-street.

For tickets, Callard and Hamilton, 121, Pitt-street.

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NOTICES.

R. A. O. B. NIL DESPERANDUM. No. 3, S. B.—
Members of the above are particularly requested to attend
a MEETING TO-NIGHT (Wednesday), at the Curfewe Law
Hall, Glebe-road, to consider the removal of
the same.

C. M. BREAKSPEAR,
Secretary.

MASONIC.—Robert Burns Lodge 817, E. C. MEETS
TO-NIGHT, in Protestant Hall, Carlton, 8.30 p.m.
R. W. NISBET,
Secretary.

LEINSTER MARINE ROYAL ARCH CHAPTEL, No. 300, T. C.—Adjourned Bi-monthly CONVOCATION
NIGHT, 10 P.M.—Business of Chapter, &c. By order
H. E. WILLIAM SHAW, Secretary.

MASONIC.—Lodge St. Andrew, 364, S.C.—Regular
Meeting POSTPONED.

LAND AND NATIONAL RELATIONS.—A Public Meeting will be held in the Tennessee Hall, Pitt-street, at 8 o'clock, on THURSDAY EVENING, January 5, to consider the advisability of forming an association to study and
recommend measures for the protection of the public against
Land speculators continually despoil labour and capital
the use of natural opportunities, or extracts as rent a large share
of the wealth labour and capital produce. No political
parties will be invited. The object of the meeting, &c. By order
H. E. WILLIAM SHAW, Secretary.

MASONIC.—Lodge St. Andrew, 364, S.C.—Regular
Meeting POSTPONED.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.—
PADDINGTON ELECTORATE.

L. O. L. WYCLIFFE. No. 22.—Usual Monthly
MEETING THIS EVENING, Wednesday. Important
Visitors cordially invited. Installation of W. M.
W. V. KAMIN, Secretary.

MERCANTILE BANK OF SYDNEY.
incorporated by Act of Parliament.

NOTICE.—It is hereby given that the Half-yearly General MEETING of the shareholders of this Bank will be held at the Banking House of the Company, George-street, Sydney, on FRIDAY, January 26, at noon, to receive the Report of the Directors for the half-year ending December 31, 1887, and to transact such other business as may be brought before the meeting.

By order of the Board of Directors.
A. A. WILSON, General Manager.
Sydney, December 31, 1887.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.—
PADDINGTON ELECTORATE.

Gentlemen.—In response to the request of many friends who have interviewed me, and in recognition of my promise on the hustings, I venture again to seek election as one of your representatives.

I venture, and hope to live to see our tariff limited to the smallest number of articles. And I am a Free-trader because I am convinced that freedom of commerce is not only for the large number who have always used it to secure the full supply for the outlet of their wares where want, and their savings out of work.

I venture, in some cases, benefit a few, but only for a time and always at the cost of the multitude. I am persuaded it is very taking name while invites and secures the support of the electors, but it is not good for the country. It enriches a few masters, it always in the end reduces both the wages and the purchasing power of wages; and, in the course of time, it creates a class of paupers.

It is the worst kind of tyranny—the wealthy and highly-capitalised employer, it makes slaves of all but a few highly-trusted labourers. If you are a dumb master, I am a CANDIDATE for the seat rendered vacant by the resignation of the Hon. J. Trickett.

TO THE ELECTORS OF PADDINGTON.
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and of acquitting himself to the satisfaction of the public during the celebrations which are to take place in honour of the centenary of the colony. If the Mayor does this, and there is no reason to think he will fail, he will deserve well of the citizens. The difficulties which beset the City Council at present cannot be overlooked. For years past the Council has been, if not in a condition of impetuosity, at least in a state of more or less embarrassment with regard to its finances, and now we are told the matter has reached a crisis. The action of the Mayor has a great deal to do with this, for though the Aldermen as a whole are charged with the administration of the city funds, the power of expenditure is to a considerable extent in the hands of the Mayor, and the present Mayor will no doubt find this a subject of anxiety. His action in the past in matters of finance is some assurance that he is not unacquainted with the difficulties of this nature which he will have to meet. He will also recognise the increased importance which is now attached generally to the office he fills. The Mayor of Sydney is a much more considerable personage now than he used to be. Years back he entered upon his duties quietly, and passed through his term of office almost without notice. Now all that is changed, and with the increased labours which have come to the position, the occupant of it has become a person of distinction. Whether it is desirable that the Mayor should be placed under all the social obligations which customs now calls upon him to fulfil is a matter worth considering, but social entertainment has grown into a recognised part of a Mayor's duties, and perhaps the matter is one which is best left to the consideration of the Mayor himself. It is satisfactory to be able to say that while Mayors vie with each other in entertaining, the improvement of the city is not stayed. That has gone on in a manner very creditable to former Mayors, including Mr. Mayor Harris, and we are quite sure that with the assistance of the Council he will cause it to continue.

Our correspondent who wrote yesterday about Vandalism in the suburbs had right to complain, because he is himself a victim. We do not know whether there have been many such victims either in the city or the suburbs, but there is some reason for the belief that the mischievous practices of the kind to which he refers have been decreasing in prevalence for some years past, although the incoming of the new year is still a day when the minds of many people as a fit occasion for displays of concerted stupidity in other directions. Vandalism may be exhibited by making night hideous as well as by defacing fences. But there is something to be considered in our correspondent's suggestion that respect for public and private property should be inculcated in early childhood. Whether it could be made the subject of express teaching in Public schools is a question we cannot answer. There are so many subjects claiming attention in the Public schools that a selection must be made from among them. But this is a matter of simple honesty and right feeling, and in any civilised country children ought to be brought up with right notions about it, whatever their teaching in school may be. It is, we believe, a fact, not only in some American towns, but also in some towns on the Continent of Europe, that private gardens bordering a public road may be left unfenced with perfect confidence. We have not reached that stage of progress here, for even fences and gates are too often found to be inadequate protection. Why should there be this difference? We must either believe that the standard of morality is lower, or adopt the more charitable supposition of a lack of information or intelligence. If there are people here who really do not know that it is theft to steal flowers from a garden, the case is bad enough; but it is worse if those who pilfer and deface gardens, and uproot young trees that have been planted in public places, do such things with some perception of their true character. It is in small matters of this kind that the law with its penalties is comparatively impotent. What we need in this case, as in some others of greater moment, is a higher tone of opinion and habits of self-control amongst the people, and unless these are effectively cultivated, we must bear the charge of being content with a very imperfect standard of civilisation.

The statement in our commercial retrospective that the re-export trade of the colony in 1886 declined by nearly one-third, is very significant as an indication of the prejudicial operation of the ad valorem and specific duties on the trade of the port. Before those duties came into operation in April of that year, the colony, owing to its free tariff, enjoyed special advantages in the international trade. Even in the case of broken packages on which the duty paid was refunded, the operation of the Customs' charge was to increase trouble and expense. Where the duty was not refunded, as in the case of broken packages, of course it was added to the cost to the buyer, in addition to the interest on the duty, and the costs and charges connected with the payment. Merchants have estimated that the imposition of the 5 per cent. duty really handicapped them 7 to 7½ per cent. in their re-export trade with Queensland and other colonies. That the operation of this duty should have suggested the avoidance of its payment by direct shipments from Europe is not very surprising. That was what the storekeepers in Cooktown and other Queensland ports found to be possible, by the agency of the British-India line of steamships through Torres Straits. The export from this colony of the produce of other countries was valued at only £2,672,013 in 1886, against a value of £3,583,464 in 1885. Although it may be said that the loss of nearly a million sterling of re-export trade was not entirely attributable to the operation of the duty, it is certain that much of it was; and no doubt can be entertained that, as trade promotes trade, the limitation of the export of foreign produce has restricted the export of our own produce. To some extent the markets for our produce have been narrowed; and the reduction of these re-export trade has had a corresponding effect on our intercolonial import trade. The effect of protective duties is clearly enough shown by the figures to have been prejudicial. To what extent the loss was continued throughout 1887 will be known when the next statistical returns for the year are published. Whether the repeal of the duties will restore the trade will be judged by the figures of 1888. There are advantages in a direct European trade which have been disclosed to the people of Queensland by the operation of our ad valorem duties; and though these duties have gone off the articles which they formerly took indirectly from this market, they may still find it to their profit to continue that direct trade—of course, to the loss of this port.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

His Excellency the Governor, who came to Sydney from Moss Vale on Monday for the purpose of attending Tattersall's race meeting and the Highland Society's gathering on the Association Ground, remained at Government House on Monday night, and attended a meeting of the Executive Council yesterday. Lord Carrington, accompanied by Lord Bertie, yesterday visited the P. & O. Company's R.M.S. Britannia, lying at the Circular Quay. His Excellency was received by Captain Tomlin and Mr. Weir and shown over the vessel, with which he expressed himself greatly pleased. Lord Carrington left by the 5 o'clock train in the afternoon for Moss Vale, where he will reside until the commencement of the Centenary celebrations.

A MEETING of the Executive Council was held yesterday, presided over by His Excellency the Governor. Mr. Justice Doffel was formally appointed Judge in Bankruptcy under the provisions of the new Act. Amongst the other items of business transacted was the approval of the following holidays:—Bega, 6th instant; Bourke, 21st instant; police district of Shoal-

haven, 19th instant; Milton, 7th February; police district of Port Macquarie, 18th instant. The 4th of January was revoked as a public holiday in the police district of Port Macquarie.

Tax new appointments to the Legislative Council, which were gazetted a few days ago, were yesterday forwarded to the President of the Council (Sir John Hay), in accordance with the usual custom.

The Premier will have Sydney to-day by the Tasmanian Steam Navigation Company's steamer Mangana, his proposed visit to Bourke. He will be accompanied by Mr. Henry Clarke, the senior member for the electorate. The vessel, which started from Daring Harbour at 10 a.m., is timed to reach Eden early on Thursday morning. Arrangements have been made for the reception of Sir Henry Parkes on his arrival there, and for the conveyance of the party to Barraba. After breakfast, the party will start for Tambarra where a short stay will be made and an address presented to the Premier. Luncheons will be provided and another address presented at Wollomombi, and Bogal will be reached about 5 o'clock in the evening. A procession consisting of the two lodges of Oddfellows and Good Templars, will be formed to meet Sir Henry Parkes, and the volunteers will form a guard of honour. An address will be presented by the mayor and aldermen, and in the evening there will be a torchlight procession. Several deputations will wait upon the Premier on Friday morning with respect to local requirements, and he will afterwards be entertained at a picnic at Tathra. The Premier is expected in the evening to address a public meeting at the Lyceum Hall. Provision has been made to convey the party to any part of the district that may be agreeable to Sir Henry Parkes on Saturday, and arrangements have been made for his return to Sydney on Tuesday next.

The Minister for Works visited yesterday the new Meat Markets which have been erected at Darling Harbour at a cost of £80,000 and £100,000. The principal object of the visit was to determine the use to which the basement should be applied, and the best means of utilising some vacant land to the south of the markets. It is not improbable that Mr. Sutherland will embody in a minute for the information of his colleagues the result of his observations.

Tax bylaws, standards, and rates of fares for the tramway from Cockburn (on the South Australian border) to Silverton have been approved by the Governor in Council, in accordance with the provisions of the Act under which private companies are authorised to construct railway and tramway systems.

Negotiations are now being carried on between the Railway Departments of New South Wales and Queensland with a view to a satisfactory time-table being arrived at for the running of through trains between the two colonies. The whole of the arrangements will, it is believed, be completed in time for the opening of the line to the border on the 16th instant.

Tax transfer of certain branches of the Mines Department to the Lands Department, which was to have taken place yesterday, was only partially carried out. The Sub-Depts of Forests and Parks were omitted in making arrangements for removal, and to-morrow the transfer of the rabbit branch will probably be effected.

Tax Mayor of Sydney (Alderman John Harris) has been appointed a member of the Centennial Commission.

Tax Receipts of revenue and expenditure for the quarter ending the 31st December will, as announced in our yesterday's issue, be ready this afternoon. In connection with this it may be stated that it has been the custom of the Department in the past to include in the accounts the money transmitted by post before the close of the year, but which had not reached the Treasury until a day or two within the new year. This practice was not followed last year by Sir Patrick Jennings, who excluded from the quarter's accounts remittances received after the close of the year. Mr. Burns has, we understand, given directions that precisely the same course shall be followed now as was adopted by his predecessor. There has been, he points out, no unusual delay in the publication of the accounts. Many of the returns came in on the last day of the quarter, and the holidays intervening prevented their completion.

Tax Notices were issued by the Government yesterday, and will be served upon the proprietors and lessees of the boiling-down establishments on Glebe Island, prohibiting the continuation of what are regarded as objectionable kinds of business. It is the intention of the authorities to prosecute persons who may persist in carrying on such establishments in the district after receiving the notices.

At a meeting of the Tender Board in connection with the Works Department, held yesterday, the following tenders were opened:—Erection of bridge over Murrarwee Creek road, Nelligen to Milton, 3 tenders; erection of bridge Ulttama Creek, Brawlin, 9 tenders; supply of 100 tons sin. cast-iron plates delivered at Newcastle, 4 tenders; right of advertising in railway time-table books for three years from 1st February, 1888, 1 tender. Tenders had been also called for the supply of fender for the Great Northern Railway, 1888, but none was received.

Tax Invitations are invited by the Government for a Centenary Challenge Race Cup made of pure Australian gold, of the value of £500, to be competed for by the yachts on the 26th instant—the day of the centenary of the colony. The tenders must state the time within which the cup can be manufactured and delivered, and a drawing of the design, which may be accepted, must afterwards be prepared for exhibition, and sent to the Colonial Secretary's office by the 10th instant.

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THE QUEENSLAND REVENUE RETURNS.

[By Telegraph.]
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BRISBANE, TUESDAY.

The revenue returns were issued late to-night. The total revenue proper for the past quarter was £735,299, showing an increase of £114,557 as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. The Customs yielded £294,214, an increase of £57,568 or 21 per cent.; Excise, £20,050, an increase of nearly £2000. The land revenue amounted to £3,339, being an increase of £7857. Pastoral occupation gave £9477, an increase of £2900; mining occupation, £8789, an increase of £1000; railways, £222,062, an increase of £29,871. Postage increased by nearly £1000; telegraphs yielded £3,000. The total revenue proper for the six months was £1,672,706, being an increase of £224,704. The principal increases are in the Customs, £117,000; pastoral occupation, £22,000 and railways, £35,500. The expenditure amounted to £1,044,829, and the loan expenditure to £322,571. The expenditure for the half-year was £1,631,470, and the loan expenditure for the same period was £192,837. The debit balance on the 31st December amounted to £369,410.

COUNTRY NEWS.

[By Telegraph.]
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ALBION PARK, TUESDAY.

Last week heavy rains destroyed the crops. The weather is now fine. The wet weather spoiled the holidays.

ARMIDALE, TUESDAY.

The continued rain for the past fortnight has done great damage to the wheat and hay. Fine weather is now much required.

A large number of gentlemen met at the New England Hotel on Saturday evening, the Mayor being in the chair, for the purpose of dressing Mr. C. L. Badham's health, and bidding him good-bye to his departure from Armidale, where he has been Clerk of Petty Session for several years. He is now promoted to the post of Police Magistrate at Wagga.

BOURKE, TUESDAY.

A storm passed over the town on Thursday night, and one inch of rain fell. Showy weather continues, and a nice light cooling rain is now falling. It has been raining all round this district, and from an inch and a half to three inches have fallen. There is every appearance of a considerable excess.

The river is 9 feet 9 inches, and stationary. It is likely to fall again in the course of a week or so below navigation level.

CAMDEN, TUESDAY.

The New Year passed off quietly. Athletic sports were held on the resources, at which the attendance was but limited.

Mr. Copeland, M.L.A., is at present on a visit to Cooma, inspecting the local mineral fields.

The weather is dull and drizzling.

GOULBURN, TUESDAY.

A determined attempt at suicide was made last night by a man named Bunton, living on the Hon. J. Chisholm's estate at Kippaggen. He cut his throat with a blunt or rusty knife, making a horrible wound. Not succeeding in saving his life, he hit himself on the head with a hammer, inflicting a contused wound on the forehead, and laying the bone bare. He was discovered to be but one of the men employed on the place. Dr. Gentry, who was sent for, stitched the wound, and ordered the man's removal to the hospital. It is said Bunton had been drinking heavily, and that he was in a state of delirium when he committed the rash act. The doctor is of opinion that he will recover.

While working on the 100ft. level of the New Carrington mine, Marulan, this morning, a tinner, named Andrew Thompson, met with serious injuries. In company with W. Thorne, he was washed and had blood and charred tissue removed. Two charges exploded, and thinking the third had missed fire, Thompson went over to examine it, and as he did so the charge exploded, wounding in the legs and right eye, and causing a compound comminuted fracture of the left leg near the shoulder. He was brought to the hospital, and attended by Dr. Maclellan. He now lies in a precarious condition.

GUNDAGA, TUESDAY.

A very heavy thunderstorm occurred yesterday afternoon in the vicinity of Hillas Creek, washing away a quantity of fencing, and doing considerable damage to the tobacco crops in that locality.

NEWCASTLE, TUESDAY.

At the quarterly meeting of the general committee of the Newcastle Hospital this evening, the report and balance-sheet were unanimously adopted. The balance-sheet showed £288 3d. 1d. had been received during the past quarter, and that the year's receipts were £117 4s. 4d., and the expenditure £102 6s. 5d. The annual meeting was fixed for the 24th instant.

This evening the prizes won at the regatta yesterday were paid over by the president (Mr. C. H. Hand) at the Terminus Hotel. The protests of the Fire Brigade were dismissed, and the oarsmen were withdrawn.

ORANGE, TUESDAY.

The appointment of Mr. A. T. Kerr to the Upper House has been received with satisfaction by all classes of this community. The choice is considered a benignant one, and as a mark of appreciation Mr. Kerr will be entertained on Monday next at a champagne luncheon by the people.

PORT MACQUARIE, TUESDAY.

The recent floods have destroyed the small patches of corn on the low-lying lands, but the loss will be very slight. Eighteen inches of rain fell. Since the flood the soil has steadily improved, and steamer can only cross at high tide. Rain fell again this afternoon.

SINGLETON, TUESDAY.

A splendid holiday weather was experienced yesterday on the occasion of the Singleton Voluntary Fire Brigade's Athletic and Bi-cycle sports, which took place on the U. A. A. Grounds. The attendance was fairly good.

A man named John Lammeron, aged 47, was burnt to death on Sunday morning in a hut at Forest Hill, about six miles from Wagga.

THE PREMIER'S VISIT TO BEGEG.

[By Telegraph.]
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BEAUMARIS, TUESDAY.

In connection with the Premier's visit to this district, a strong committee has been formed here. It is proposed to meet the Premier at Eden on Thursday morning, with the necessary provision for the conveyance of the party, who will breakfast at Eden, and start early for Tambo, where a short stay will be made and an address presented. Wollumbin will be reached about 1:30 p.m., when luncheon will be provided and an address presented. The party will start again at 3 o'clock, and reach Begeg at 5. The Premier will be met by a procession, consisting of two lodges of Oddfellows and Good Templars; the school children, the general public, and the ladies of the town, for a grand reception.

The mayor and aldermen will present an address, and there will be a torchlight procession in the evening. On Friday morning a short time will be devoted to deputations. Sir Henry Parkes will then be entertained at a picnic at Tambo, and a meeting will be held at Begeg at noon on Saturday. In the evening the Premier will address a public meeting at the Lyons Hall. On Saturday arrangements have been made to convey the party to St. George, and further arrangements have been made for his conveyance back to Eden, in order to re-embark for Sydney.

FATAL GUN ACCIDENT AT TUMBULUGUM.

[By Telegraph.]
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEWWILLUMBAH, TUESDAY.

A 16-year-old girl named Lowe was accidentally shot dead at Tumbulugum. It appears that a man named Traut had been out shooting, and returning in the evening, he placed a loaded gun in a room where the girl and a boy named Stanley were playing. In the absence of Traut the boy took the gun and pointed it at the girl. He said to her, "I'm going to shoot you." The gun discharged through the girl's eye, and lodged in the back of her head.

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

THE TURF.

With his usual punctuality, Mr. Scarr issued the weights yesterday for the Anniversary Handicap, the leading event of the Centennial Meeting, to be held at Randwick on 26th inst. The contestants in the Sydney Cup race, however, appear to have been satisfied with the present care, and have been evenly distributed, the winner having been carefully concealed. Trenton tops the list with 1st, 10; Dunlop follows, with 10b less, conceding 4lb, to Alcibiades, while Honesteeve had even weight, followed by Fairwater, Keith, Bernstein, and Starkey, who seem to be pretty well in. The owners of The Jew and Abber scratched their pair yesterday on the appearance of the handicap. The weights are published in another part of this issue.

Herdale race meeting was registered with the secretary of the A.C. & C. on Saturday, 1st January, 1888, at 11:30 a.m. The Trial Stakes, 1 mile from Nancy Lee, 24 lbs., and Peacock, 11 lbs., were also registered. The first race, 1st, 11b, was run in 2 minutes 34 seconds; the Town Plate, 11b, for 2 miles, resulted in a two-length victory for Hidden Treasure, 6st. 7lbs., followed by 4lb less, to More Power, 7st., in the Second Handicap, 11b, miles.

There were 100 entries in the adjacent two heats of Dogs and Canicula, put in an appearance. Mr. F. G. Cleaver's Brembo, 7st. 11bs., won the Trial Stakes, 1 mile from Nancy Lee, 24 lbs., and Peacock, 11 lbs., by a length. The second race, 1st, 11b, was run in 2 minutes 34 seconds; the Town Plate, 11b, for 2 miles, resulted in a two-length victory for Hidden Treasure, 6st. 7lbs., followed by 4lb less, to More Power, 7st., in the Second Handicap, 11b, miles.

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OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 6.
The enthusiasm for Russia growing in France every day and hour has long ago reached every reasonable limit, and is now spreading in fantastical guise over all the land. From the palaces of French aristocrats it has walked forth among the people and got thoroughly democratized. The chouettes of Republican peasants are adorned with cheap portraits, in glaring colours, of the most absolute autocrat in the world; men begin to cut their hair à la mojik, and women to wear Russian head-gear and sarafans. In the taverns Russian vodka is sold, in some schools the Russian language is taught, boys wear their boots over their trousers à la Russie, and samovars are getting common. The emperor may be said to be the only thing the French nation might borrow from the Russian. It often makes me read but Russian novels, nothing is harder but Russian, in short, cette chose russe is under way, such an apostrophe as this never dreamt of. But it is curious to observe how indifferently the sullen Northern Bear receives all these advances of giddy coquettish France. To go hand in hand with France the Cossacks must needs have German in the brush, indeed, must turn its wide back upon Bismarck in the most decided manner, and this is very difficult and very disagreeable to do. It is evident that the chain, so carefully forged, by which Bismarck leads the Bear, and makes it do the most unexpected antics, is not to be snapped yet a while, and the sanguine French Republic will soon have to recognize the fact, and look reality in the face.

When I say Russia is more inclined towards Germany than towards France, of course I mean the Government, for the nation would half with delight any measures that would paralyse Germany. But if you weigh the political nullity of the Russian nation, and the impious reasons and interests which force the Emperor to compromise with Bismarck, in order to avoid a bloody war, you will see that the chances are that the hopes of France to get Russia as an ally against Germany are built on the sand. There is a great misunderstanding between the two nations. France sends Drouot, an excited, frantic patriot, raving of the *renaissance*, who travels all the way to Nijni-Novgorod to weep over the tombs of the Russian patriots Minin and Pojarsky, and to make acquaintances with the Russian people (*le peuple russe*), not knowing a single word of Russian. Drouot, it is true, made the most eloquent speech in his native tongue, spoke of the wrongs Germany had inflicted on both nations, of the sympathy and confraternity that ought to bind them, &c., whereas all these fine phrases have very little real contents, and it is necessary to stretch one's imagination out of all shape to see anything common between the French nation and the Russian, or between the most absolute of Monarchs and a bright free Republic. The Russians are the most hospitable people in the world; of course M. Drouot was most delicately treated and regaled, flattered and applauded. No doubt he returned to France triumphant, whereas the alliance was as good as non-existent, whereas we are as far from it as possible. We do not say that if Germany declared war to France, Russia would not expect her to stand by. It is only when she understands that Germany is her most treacherous and dangerous enemy that she will turn to France and be glad to clasp her hand, but it will require time and many events to make this clear. The last news of the precarious state of Prince Frederick William, and of the shattered health of the Emperor, make it probable that for the present at least no decisive step will be taken in any direction. The refusal of the German banks to receive Russian money has caused a panic in the money market; but a telegram came from Berlin almost immediately after the news reached Petersburg to inform us that the same measures have been adopted in regard to Austria and other papers. (See.)

The prolonged stay of the Emperor Alexander at Copenhagen has proved a fruitful theme for all kinds of speculations. When his Majesty left for that city two months ago with all the Imperial family, it was thought he was bound on one of those family visits, destined to be a secret, and that he would return to Petersburg as soon as possible.

But the last news of his return makes it evident

that he is staying longer than intended, and that his resolution to give up his residence in Petersburg is not yet finalised.

To hear one of their operas out requires Russian patience and Russian ignorance of everything that makes the charm of vocal music. During the last two years the well-known taste of the Russians for the *opéra-comique* has been revived. Cochet has been engaged, and made his début yesterday with great success. Emma Bonaparte is the prima donna of the season, and Limido is engaged for January.

St. Petersburg is assuming its winter aspect. The Neva is almost frozen and the sleighing established.

The city has much improved of late. After a desperate battle between gas and electricity, the latter means of lighting the best streets has been adopted. All is done on a grand scale, and the effect of the Neva. Perspective at night is grand. What contributes much to the animation of the city in summer and autumn is the newly introduced navigation of steamboats on the principal canals. They are replaced in winter by rapid sledges drawn by reindeer. Nothing can be more comfortable and convenient than the system of tramways which intersect the city in all directions. Were it not for the rigour and unhealthiness of the climate St. Petersburg would be one of the most desirable cities to live in, supposing one considered only exterior comforts, and were not too exigent for intellectual food, which is scarce enough.

Baron Madar, who arrived here with his wife, and died to busy himself with the publication of his works, is entirely disabled by rheumatism, and confined to his chamber. The treatment advised by the doctors does not seem to have any effect, and the Baron accustomed to a warm climate, is evidently unable to support the trying Russian winter.

The drama, and Court Toilet of which I spoke in detail in one of my letters has been or is about to be reproduced in the French translation at Paris. The representation of that piece was forbids lots on account of its immorality and extreme realism. The types are eminently Russian that with all their talent and goodwill the French actors are sure to make a mess of it, and it will be but a sorry parody. The French nation really go too far in distaste. In no other country would such a piece be tolerated on the boards of a French theatre.

A WONDERFUL MEDICINE.
BIECHAM'S PILLS.
are admitted by thousands to be worth above a Guinea a box for Bilious and Nervous Diseases, such as Wind and Pain in the Head, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Cold Chills, Flashes of Heat, Loss of Appetite, Shortness of Breath, Convulsions, Severe Neuralgic and Trembling Paroxysms, &c. The first dose will give relief in 20 minutes. This is no action, for they have done it in thousands of cases. The second dose is easily taken, and will give a full recovery. The third dose will soon reduce the heat of a sunstroke. The fourth dose will give a full recovery of all diseases of the brain. There is no doubt that we are living through a most important historical moment, and the most clever and experienced diplomats are at a loss to predict what may happen in a few months or even a few weeks.

Among the public the visit of the Emperor to Russia has produced a very unfavourable impression. People express their discontent openly, for the time has gone by when the nation was so anxious to preserve peace, and it seems that, since the death of Ratkoff, his ideas are becoming more and more popular. The Russian national party especially are ready to fight the coalition without the aid of any ally. Their arrogance and disdain of everything foreign increases every day, and their indignation at what goes on now in France has no bounds. Their organs are filled with rage against the abominable corruption of the Republic, forgetting on proceeding to ignore that the Czarina and her relatives, if it could be done, would pale before what goes on at home, in all spheres high and low. These things are not made public here, that is not the difference. Lately looking over the books and accounts of the late Ratkoff, it was discovered that he received for several years the sum of 35,000 roubles as percentage for some mysterious capital that could not be found. The fact is that when that crusade against the Jews took place some years ago, some rich Israélite capitalists offered Ratkoff the percentage of a great sum of money, which they supposed to be able to save by his silence, and the great publicist accepted the bargain, and never wrote a word against the Jews from that day. This fact is all the more characteristic that Ratkoff's honesty had become proverbial, and nobody

ever asked how he made the great fortune which he left.

The resolution of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Vishnegradsky) to cover up the State deficit of 50 millions, remains unchanged, notwithstanding the apparent impossibility of making ends meet, and the system of taxation he has imagined to attain this result is remarkable by the absence of all tact, and by the ignorance of the real financial position of the Czar's subjects. The most incredible pressure is now being practised upon the people, and most of these new inventions fall with their weight upon the poorer part of the population. In vain protests are tendered on all sides, trying to prove that raising and beggarizing the people is not the way to ensure the progress of commerce and industry. It is answered that the German and French people pay much heavier taxes than the Russian, but the former are ten times richer than the latter; the German subject is taxed with his own consent and according to his means. The fact is that it was difficult to imagine a person more incapable and unfit for his post than the present Minister of Finance; and if his predecessor, M. Bunge, much criticised in his time, never showed a single spark of genius or originality, at least he was probably uncomplaining, and did not come high raining upon every kind of stamped paper is immense, and is equally odious for rich and poor, for it has to be paid for by every domestic, however minded how trifling, and is one of the principal sources of the State revenue.

The projected new machine for

the production of

the project of

Auction Sales.

THE NEW AUCTION MART, 100, PITT-STREET.

THIS DAY, 16 JANUARY, at 11 o'clock a.m.
FOR SALE BY AUCTION.20 AMERICAN BUGGIES, WAGGONS, &c.,
comprising with AwningsSIX-FOOT AND DOUBLE HORSES, with Awnings
First-class English THOROUGH-BRED, Trained in Morocco

LADY'S PAIR OF PHEASANTS, with Game

Confortable

AMERICAN EXPRESSES' WAGGONS, with Horses

DROP FRONT PHANTOMS, with Horses

EUREKA JEWELLERY, with Gold, Diamonds, &c.

BREWSTER'S SIDE BAR PLATE BUGGIES, HOOKE'S CARTS.

To Coach-builders, Carriage Proprietors, Private Gentlemen,
Stewards, Shipowners, &c., &c.HARRIS AND ACKMAN have received instructions
to sell by public auction at THE NEW AUCTION
MART, 100, PITT-STREET, THIS DAY, 16 JANUARY, at
11 o'clock a.m.

ON VIEW MORNING OF SALE.

TERMS AT SALE.

THE NEW AUCTION MART, 100, PITT-STREET.

THURSDAY, 16 JANUARY, at 11 o'clock a.m.

IMPORTANT SALE BY AUCTION
OF ELEGANT PIANOFORTES,

WALNUT, BLACK AND GOLD, &c.

The stock comprises

Very fine COTTAGE PIANOFORTES, in Walnut and Black and

Gold Cases, overstrung, iron-framed, extra strong, 7 octaves

and on elegant legs, made by G. H. Morris, of Nottingham

WALNUT PIANOFORTES, made by G. H. Morris, of Nottingham

SPLendid PIANOFORTES, in ITALIAN WALNUT, with all

the latest improvements, against climatic influences,

by those celebrated makers, Mendelius Thoschak, of

Baron

WALNUT PIANOFORTES, by Peacock and other

makers, embracing all the latest improvements,

&c., &c.

To Trade Buyers, Musical Instrument Vendors, Pianoforte

Manufacturers, Shippers, Dealers, &c.

HARRIS AND ACKMAN have received instructions
to sell by public auction at THE NEW AUCTION
MART, 100, PITT-STREET, on THURSDAY, 16 JANUARY, at
11 o'clock a.m.

TERMS AT SALE.

THE NEW AUCTION MART, 100, PITT-STREET.

THURSDAY, 16 JANUARY, at 12 o'clock, noon.

ATTRACTIVE SALE BY AUCTION

OIL PAINTINGS, WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS,
ENGRAVINGS, &c., &c.OUTSTANDING examples of original work, by leading artists, Land and
Sea Scenes, Pictures Subjects

GROTESQUE WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS—Views in and around

FINELY FINISHED PHOTOGRAPHS, mounted in oil

SPLendid LINE ENGRAVINGS and ETCHINGS—Copies of

the most celebrated Engravings by Linton, &c.

ARTISTS' PROPS of Historical and General Subjects,
&c., &c., &c.The above are elaborately framed in oak, maple, and gilt frames,
&c., &c.Antique Buyers, Ladies and Gentlemen Furnishings,
Connoisseurs, Dealers, &c., &c.HARRIS AND ACKMAN are instructed to sell
above at AUCTION, at THE NEW AUCTION MART,
100, PITT-STREET, on THURSDAY next, 16 JANUARY, at 12
o'clock noon.

TERMS AT SALE.

FRIDAY, 17 JANUARY, at 11 a.m.

RESIDENTIAL ESTATE OF C. F. FEYER AND CO.,
TAILORS AND OUTFITTERS.

ON THE PREMISES, 255, PITT-STREET.

Under instructions from the Official Assignee,
the whole of their
VALUABLE AND SUBSTANTIAL STOCKWOOLLENS, COATINGS,
NEW ZEALAND AND OTHER FABRICS
LINTENS, LINING, TRIMMINGS
FIXTURES, MIRRORS
OFFICE DRAWS, COUNTERS, MACHINE, &c., &c.B. R. HARRIS AND CO. have received instructions to sell
by auction, as above, FRIDAY next, at 11 a.m.The whole of their
WITHOUT RESERVE.

TUESDAY, 18 JANUARY.

POSITIVE SALE.

Choice COTTAGE RESIDENCE, the Heights of Parramatta,
conveniently situated for business men.JOHN TAYLOR has been instructed with instructions
to sell by public auction at THE Real Property Sales Room, Church-street, on
TUESDAY, 18 JANUARY, at 11 o'clock.That the premises are well situated, now in
the occupation of Mr. Hanly, situate on the south side of
the Western-road (Globe Estate), opposite Bell's Hotel.The house is brick-built, and contains five rooms, hall,
kitchen, bathroom, scullery, &c. The whole in ex-
cellent order. Stables and coachhouse at rear of resi-
dence.The general frontage to Western-road is 55 ft., by a depth of
52 ft., and back 100 ft.The rooms are tastefully laid out, laves, flower, fruit,
and vegetable gardens, and grape-vine terrace.

Title, leasehold of 97 years, and a sum: £127 per year.

Ground Rent: £20, by a depth of 50 ft.

The houses are always tenanted, and the sale offers a good
opportunity for investment.

Terms at sale.

BUSINESS AND BUILDING SITES.

Close to the Ferntree Railway Station.

JOHN TAYLOR will sell by public auction, at the
Real Property Sale Room, Church-street, on TUESDAY,
18 JANUARY, at 11 o'clock.A small cottage residence and some important business and
trading sites in Chapel, Wentworth, Peters, and
Marion streets.

Terms, cash.

TUESDAY, 18 JANUARY.

COTTAGE RESIDENCES, HARRIS PARK.

JOHN TAYLOR has received instructions to sell by
public auction, at his Real Property Sale Room, Church-
street, on TUESDAY, 18 JANUARY, at 11 o'clock.All that BLOCK of LAND situated on the western
slope of Chapel Hill, between the railway and the road, and
known as "Inman's Grant," which has been
subdivided into THREE ALLOTMENTS, each lot
having a frontage to Chapel-street of 90 feet 4 inches
by a depth of 180 ft. to 175 ft.The land is well situated for either private residences or busi-
ness premises.

Title unquestionable. Terms, Easy payments.

TOWN OF ST. LEONARD.

TWO ORIGINAL HALF-ACRE BLOCKS,
situated in the
CHOICEST PART OF NORTH SHORE.

The property of the late Mr. Thomas Musgrave.

G. T. CLARKE AND CO. have received instructions
from the Trustees to sell by public auction,
WITHOUT ANY RESERVE.

THE RESIDENCE PROPERTY.

ON THE GROUND.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, at 3 o'clock.

The Two Original Half-acre Blocks, each having a frontage
of 50 ft. to Berry-street, by a depth of 180 ft., and being
60 ft. deep, and 7, and 6, and 6, on the Town Map.The above land is situated on the east and west side of Mr.
Langford's Estate, Lot 10, and adjacent to the Residences of Mr.
John Clarke and Mr. George Clarke, the former a
gentleman, and known as "Inman's Grant," which has been
subdivided into THREE ALLOTMENTS, each lot
having a frontage to Chapel-street of 90 feet 4 inches
by a depth of 180 ft. to 175 ft.The land is well situated for either private residences or busi-
ness premises.

Preliminary Intimation.

HARDIE AND GORMAN have received instructions to sell
by public auction (by order of the mortgagor), at their
Rooms, 100, Pitt-street, at 11 o'clock on WEDNESDAY,
12 JANUARY.

The above-described properties.

IN man's Grant.

TUESDAY, 16 JANUARY.

THREE VALUABLE ALLOTMENTS,
Church-street, No. 100, Pitt-street, residence.JOHN TAYLOR has been instructed to sell by public
auction, at his Real Property Sale Room, Church-street,
TUESDAY, 16 JANUARY.

The above described properties.

TUESDAY, 16 JANUARY.

IMPORTANT UNRESERVED SALE.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 1888, at 11 o'clock p.m.

MAGNIFICENT RIVERINA PROPERTY,
MURKINBUNDI.

FOR POSITIVE AND UNRESERVED SALE.

WARDEN HARRY GRAVES, Sydney,
in conjunction with
J. C. WOOD, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, &
Messrs. CO., have received instructions to sell by auction, at their
Rooms, 100, Pitt-street, at 11 o'clock.That management, well known, and highly improved
property.

HOWLING.

On the Murkimbundie River, adjoining three well-known
Properties, Grange and Wardsy, comprising over
12,000 acres, and containing 1,000 head of cattle, 1,000
horses, & 1,000 head, land-sheep, 50,000 acres, 30,000
high-class sheep, which have been heavily culled; 200
acres of land, and extensive improvements, good
houses, stables, &c.

For further particulars see front advertisement.

INQUIRIES INVITED. NO RESERVE.

For letters to inquire apply to
WARDEN HARRY GRAVES, & Spring-street, Sydney;

S. G. WALSH and CO., 100, Northcote West, Melbourne.

THURSDAY'S GRANT, NEUTRAL BAY.

Three Minutes Walk from the Ferry Steps.

HIGHLY ELEVATED SPOTS, LOVELY VIEWS.

HARDIE AND GORMAN are instructed to sell by auction
at their Rooms, 100, Pitt-street, on THURSDAY, 16 JANUARY, at 11 o'clock.

The following choice property:

1. South-east corner VILLA RESIDENCE, with detached
verandahs, laundry, &c., built of brick, stone, and timber, about
1 acre, corner lot, fronting Pitt-street, to be sold
at ground rent of £25 per annum; lease for
99 years from 1st January, 1888.2. South-east corner BUNGALOW, 4 rooms and out-
buildings, fronting BEN BOYD ROAD, 250 ft. long, by a
depth of about 100 ft.; to be sold subject to a ground
rent of £12 a year; lease for 99 years from 1st January,
1888.3. Semi-detached COTTAGE, 4 rooms and out-
buildings, fronting BEN BOYD ROAD, 250 ft. long, by a
depth of about 100 ft.; to be sold subject to a ground
rent of £12 a year; lease for 99 years from 1st January,
1888.The above are bona-fide positive sales, to close accounts, and
are known respectively as Lots 15, 16, 17, 18, of the Harbour View
Estates, Thrupp's Grant, Neutral Bay.

Plans and photographs on view at the sale rooms.

CITY BUILDING LAND.

A STUNNING THROW FROM GEORGE-STREET.

A most elevated spot, with views of the Harbour View
Estates, Thrupp's Grant, Neutral Bay.HARDIE AND GORMAN have received instructions to sell by
public auction, at their Rooms, 100, Pitt-street, on THURSDAY,
16 JANUARY, at 11 o'clock.The above-described property, and in the
CENTRE of a LOCALITY WHICH IS IMPROVING DAILY.

COTTAGE RESIDENCE, SUMMER HILL.

THURSDAY, 16 JANUARY, 1888.

DETACHED COTTAGE, built of brick on stone, contains
4 rooms, hall, kitchen, bathroom, verandahs front and back; large
back yard, good water supply, on LAND 94ft. 10ins. x 170ft.A COTTAGE RESIDENCE, built of brick, 100 ft. long, by a
depth of about 100 ft.; to be sold subject to a ground
rent of £12 a year; lease for 99 years from 1st January,
1888.The above-described cottage, situated in the
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